

**To: Chairperson Schubart and Trustees**  
**From: Chief Tom Bremner**  
**Date: May 16<sup>th</sup> / 2011**  
**Sub: SSIFR Monthly Report (April / 2011)**

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- Well done, after several years of preparation and numerous months of training, the SSIFR successfully completed all three Superior Water Shuttle Accreditation tests on April 9<sup>th</sup> 2011, each in their first attempt. To all involved no matter what the role you played, "Thank you". The residents within the effected boundaries that will be determined by the FUS experts will now experience fire insurance rate savings. In using the words of the evaluator who noted; "This was the best organized and structured testing process I have experienced". SSIFR members and support members walk tall and proud, you have earned it by conducting a "Historical Event", with 100% success. Unfortunately there is no guarantee that residents will receive insurance decreases, please contact your Insurance agent directly.
- Members have received training on our American LaFrance pumper and it is now in active service. Our Mini Pumper is in the pre-construction phase with the manufacturer. Unit 509 will be back in service in May.
- CFSI radio continues to host a weekly Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue on air information segment. The airing times are Monday morning at approximately 9:15am and Tuesday evening at approximately 5:00pm. Topics vary weekly.
- Renovations to the Ganges fire hall kitchen are 90% completed. A three way partnering contribution has made this possible. When completed it will create improved kitchen space, modern appliances and lessen health safe concerns. New flag poles were installed at Halls 2&3
- Our communications system continues to be upgraded with advanced equipment and a new CREST repeater site aimed to be installed at Hall #3 by the end of August 2011.
- Members continued to be busy this month with training, work duties and calls for assistance. In April the SSIFR responded to 35 **calls for assistance**.

**Response types were:**

First Responder	15
Alarms	2
Complaints	3
Chimney Fires	1
Public Assists	7
Motor Vehicle Incidents	2
Haz-Mat	2
Misc	2
Rescue	1

➤ **Fire Inspection Division report for April:**



Commercial Inspections	58
Commercial Re-inspections	0
Responses to Emergencies	20
Category 3 Burn Pile Inspections	4
Review of Fire Safety Plans	1
Subdivision Reviews	0
Driveway Inspections	0
Car Child-Seat Installs	1
Battery Smoke Alarm requests	1
Public Information Sessions	3
Fire Extinguisher Training	3 Sessions (20-Adults)
Public Education Tours	4 Sessions (18-People)
Number of Burning Permits issued	850
Paperwork / Administration	Endless

- April continued to be productive with inspections. The ability now to re-inspect in a timely fashion has proven very successful with cooperation from business owners and operators and our Inspection Division capabilities.
- Another initiative the SSIFR has undertaken worthy of mentioning is the Prevention Vehicle decaling program. This is an opportunity for local businesses to show their support for Fire Prevention, by advertising their company logo on our Inspection / Prevention support vehicles. To date, we have 9 decaling spots confirmed. We will continue to invite other businesses to join in until all available space is taken. Support received from this program will go back into the general operating budget.
- We continue to receive positive responses and invitations to our program for voluntary inspections of all B&B's. Letters went out to over a hundred B&B's offering a fire safety visit, offering tips of fire prevention, fire extinguisher checks as well as smoke alarm inspections.
- Burning permits are required effective April 15<sup>th</sup> until October 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 for all types of burning. Permits can be obtained (for free) at the Ganges Fire Station during regular office hours. Category 3 Machine piles require an inspection prior to a permit being authorized. 850 "Burning permits" were processed in April.
- Request for an In – Camera Session (Property / Legal / Personnel)